

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Lutz Biedermann and Jürgen Harms

SERIAL NO.

FILED: Herewith

FOR: ANCHORING ELEMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

#2/Pre
Cmg +
4/3/03

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows.

In the Claims:

Please ~~cancel~~ claims 1-11 and enter the following new claims.

--12. An anchoring element comprising:

a screw;

a receiving portion for connecting the screw to a rod;

wherein the screw comprises a threaded section and a head having a spherical segment-shaped section;

wherein the receiving portion comprises a first end, a second end opposite the first end, a longitudinal axis passing through the two ends, a bore coaxial with the

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